

authors were to develop a style which
 militates against
 and impedes this quality what one feels to be
 the typically
 dictated style But these two books are *written*
 True,
 in the Preface to *The History of Trade Unionism* ^
 thanks are
 rendered to Bernard Shaw and Giaham Wallas
 foi " what-
 ever literary merits" it may have, but this,
 one may be
 sure, is but another example of the authors'
 general gen-
 erosity Phrasing and picture one is sure are
 their own
 and they are alike admnable The portraits of
 the early
 Trade Union Junta, as of Burns, Mann and their
 associates,
 fixed their features in the mind, lastingly, and
 these por-
 traits are but incidental high points in a
 general disposition
 of light and shade that is masterly The
 authors possess
 their subject, and they possess it with a
 living interest
 that they know how to communicate

Vitality is the fiist quality, since its constant
 presence
 keeps the reader reading, and reading with
 concentrated
 attention As he does so, and, still more
 markedly, when
 he re-reads, he becomes aware, and is in
 general retrospect
 increasingly aware, of another quality,
 even moie dis-
 tinguished This is organisation The
 vast intractable
 material is not only dissected and made
 intelligible in
 its separate parts, it is attached to its
 fundamental bones
 The structure and articulation of a
 world of diverse
 impulses, histories, forces and human beings
 is here, is
 alive, and is coherent It lives not only in
 items, but as
 a whole This result is achieved through
 an intellectual

planning and an intellectual control of the
first order
The events seem irresistibly, and by natural
law, to order
themselves into sequences, and those
sequences to acquire
significance This result is secured
partly through the
authors' sheer mastery of their material
partly through
their remarkable self-restraint Neither facts
nor comments
belonging properly to Volume II—the
analytical volume
—are permitted into Volume I, which is strictly
historical